



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

*"Parks Make Life Better!"*

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

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CONTACT: Kaye Michelson  
Parks and Recreation (213) 738-2955  
or  
Public Health (213) 240-8144

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Parks After Dark Extends Summer Park Hours  
and Activities in Los Angeles County**

**Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation partners  
with Public Health to expand program to six County parks**

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles County Departments of Parks and Recreation and Public Health kick off the 2012 Parks After Dark (PAD) season, a program offering extended park hours and activities at select parks throughout the summer. For 2012, PAD will be expanded to serve six parks in Los Angeles County and will take place every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening from 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. through August 25, 2012.

PAD was developed to provide youth and families with positive recreational activities in their communities to decrease the likelihood of their participation in at-risk, gang-related behavior. Initially implemented in three County parks, the program has assisted in strengthening community cohesion by increasing the use of the parks as social and community resources.

"We are proud to expand the Parks After Dark Program to additional parks this year," said Russ Guiney, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. "Parks are such an important part of the community and residents will again have the opportunity to enjoy programs including sports activities, walking clubs, cultural and educational activities, musical concerts in the parks, movies in the parks, employment opportunities for local youth and resource fairs."

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Through recent funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Parks and Recreation has partnered with the Department of Public Health's *Choose Health LA* initiative to extend programming to a total of six PAD locations:

**City Terrace Park**, 1126 N. Hazard Ave., LA 90063

**Jesse Owens Community Regional Park**, 9651 S. Western Ave., LA 90047

**Pamela County Park**, 2236 Goodall Ave., Duarte 91010

**Franklin D. Roosevelt Park**, 7600 Graham Ave., LA 90001

**Ted Watkins Memorial Park**, 1335 E. 103rd St., LA 90002

**Loma Alta Park** 3330 N. Lincoln Ave., Altadena 91001

"A safe and welcoming place to recreate is often the biggest barrier for LA County residents to get the recommended level of physical activity," said Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH, County Health Officer and Director of Public Health. "Parks After Dark is an opportunity to enjoy the summer months with friends and family while maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle."

PAD is made possible through a partnership among the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, LA 84 Foundation, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the following Los Angeles County agencies: Public Health, Probation Department, Public Library, Department of Community and Senior Services, Human Relations Commission, Public Defender's Office and the District Attorney's Office. The City of Pasadena Department of Parks and Recreation has also partnered with Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation to add PAD to Pasadena parks located near Loma Alta Park.

For more information on low and no-cost opportunities for physical activity in Los Angeles County, connect with *Choose Health LA* online. Visit Choose Health LA on Twitter [@ChooseHealthLA](https://twitter.com/ChooseHealthLA), on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ChooseHealthLA) and at [ChooseHealthLA.com](http://ChooseHealthLA.com).

#### **About the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation**

The Department provides the residents and visitors of Los Angeles County with quality recreational opportunities that promote a healthy lifestyle and strengthen the community through diverse physical, educational and cultural programming. The Department also enhances the community environment by acquiring, developing and maintaining more than 177 County parks, gardens, golf courses, trails and open space areas. Parks Make Life Better! Follow the department on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/lacountyparks> on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/parks.lacounty.gov> and on the web at <http://parks.lacounty.gov>.

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## **About Los Angeles County Department of Public Health**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control, and community and family health. Public Health comprises more than 4,000 employees and an annual budget exceeding \$750 million. To learn more about Public Health, please visit [publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov) or the YouTube channel at [youtube.com/lapublichealth](https://youtube.com/lapublichealth) or follow Public Health on Twitter: [@LAPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/LAPublicHealth).

## **About Choose Health LA**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's *Choose Health LA* initiative seeks to improve nutrition, increase physical activity and reduce tobacco use in LA County.

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